The 2006 season of An Appalachian Summer Festival promises a summer filled with the biggest names in classical, jazz, bluegrass, folk, popular, dance and visual arts programming. Rounding it all out is the much-anticipated outdoor fireworks finale concert with John Michael Montgomery and Cowboy Crush! Tickets are on sale now! Call 262-4046 or visit www.appssummer.org. Payroll deduction is available for any ticket purchase of $100 or more (only $8.33/month), and faculty and staff receive a discount on most single ticket prices. For more information, contact the Farthing Auditorium box office at 262-4046 or 1-800-841-ARTS (2787).

2006 Season Highlights

- Doc Watson with the Sam Bush Band, July 1
- Marcus Belgrave’s Tribute to Louis Armstrong, July 3
- Pilobolus Dance, July 8
- Eastern Philharmonic Orchestra with guest artist André Watts, July 9
- Limón Dance Company, July 14
- Nitty Gritty Dirt Band, July 15
- The North Carolina Symphony Pops, July 18
- Arlo Guthrie’s Guthrie Family Legacy Tour, July 22
- Eastern Philharmonic Orchestra with guest artist Frederica von Stade, July 23
- Buckwheat Zydeco, July 26
- Outdoor Fireworks Concert: John Michael Montgomery with Cowboy Crush, July 29


An Appalachian Summer Festival
July 1-29, 2006

Announcements

Please join us for the next Staff Council meetings, May 9th and June 13th at 1:30 pm, 224 IG Creeer. Light refreshments are provided. Anyone is welcome to attend and you do not have to be a member to participate on a committee.

Graduation is May 6 & 7, 2006. Staff Council is looking for volunteers to help usher. If you are interested, contact Sal Gill-Johnson, sgljohnson@appstate.edu.

Correction: Norma’s last name is Kyte. It was inadvertently left off in the Staff Profile and we apologize for any inconvenience this may have caused. We just think she is a neat lady that everyone should know!

Staff Profile

Mary Beth McKee is a woman who truly enjoys her work. Mary Beth is a computer training specialist in the Instructional Computing Services (ICS) area of the Information Technology Services (ITS) department. As a department, ITS is responsible for computer operations at Appalachian. Mary Beth’s area is comprised of six employees, including supervisor Steve Breiner. The staff of ITS strives to provide training and consulting services to Appalachian’s faculty and staff. When asked what she likes best about the job she’s held for over four years, Mary Beth did not hesitate to say that she enjoys meeting and working with people at all levels from across campus. She also enjoys the new ICS office area in the Belk Library and Information Commons.

Mary Beth was born in Indiana and credits her love of our mountainous area to her parents, who were from the mountains of Pennsylvania. She has an undergraduate degree in Elementary Education and a Master’s Degree in Education in Instructional Systems Technology. A few years ago, Mary Beth bought a house on Brown’s Chapel Road. She loves to spend time outdoors with her black Labrador, Teaspoon, and is involved with a women’s outdoors group that plans fun events like hiking the backside of Grandfather Mountain and canoeing. She is a member of High Country United Church of Christ. The church will soon move to a larger site in Vilas.

Mary Beth recently had the opportunity to accompany the first Appalachian class to ever visit Africa when she taught a class entitled “Information Technology in Emerging Countries”. While in Africa, Mary Beth and her students worked at an orphanage and with a group called Women in Progress. After staying in a country where clean water and power were luxuries, the trip left her with the firm belief that United States citizens are very blessed. In addition to her work at Appalachian, which included some part-time work in the library, Mary Beth has also taught school and worked for a software company in Washington, D.C. After living in such a busy city, Mary Beth really appreciates life in Boone, noting that people are, indeed, friendlier here. She does miss having access to great shopping and an airport but, overall, feels that Boone is the place for her.

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In the future, Mary Beth hopes to be at Appalachian and to continue in her role of teaching her colleagues better ways to utilize technology.

Mary Beth is a great teacher, take advantage of the classes taught in ICS to improve your technology skills.

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Mary Beth is a great teacher, take advantage of the classes taught in ICS to improve your technology skills.
North Carolina Smart Choice

PPO healthcare options coming soon - make the smart choice!

Be on the lookout for information regarding the new PPO health benefit options. Enrollment Kits will be mailed to home addresses the week of April 28, 2006, and the enrollment form is available online now at www.statehealthplan.state.nc.us

Open enrollment will take place May 22 - June 30 for coverage effective October 1, 2006.

For more information, visit the ASU Human Resource Services website at www.hrs.appstate.edu, or attend one of the many information sessions scheduled throughout campus from April 21 - June 30, 2006. Be informed and make the choice that is right for you and your family!

### Staff Council Presidents Letter

As another school year comes to a close and we prepare to begin a new year with Staff Council, I would be remiss if I didn’t say thank you to Jenny Ware and all the wonderful things she has done in the past year as our president. Her leadership has continued the spirit with which Staff Council was formed and her passion for encouraging staff equality has shown brightly. It is also with a heavy heart that we say goodbye to our officers. Deborah Brown has done a wonderful job as Vice-President. Additionally, Dianne Dula and Janice Voss have definitely gone above and beyond the call of duty by agreeing to serve more than their required one term. They stepped up when no one else would come forward. Their dedication and knowledge as officers will be greatly missed but I am pleased to announce that they will continue to remain as members.

As I now look forward to this next year as Staff Council President it is with excitement and hope. We are going to have a new set of officers who are going to bring new ideas and a fresh outlook. The possibilities are as endless as is the potential we have to improve the lives of Appalachian’s staff. I want us to work hard to expand our membership. It has always been a vision of mine to see total representation of all buildings one day. I want us to work to see that we have a smooth transition to Career Banding and hopefully in the next year we will see the funding to help this process along. I want us to work with Human Resources to help get out the word about the new and exciting choices we have in health care. We now have the freedom to choose which plan we feel best fits us. Finally, I want us to work to improve our relationships within the University from top administrators to staff members.

This body has so much respect in the University and I want that to continue. I look forward to being your President for the next year and I invite you to always feel free to talk to me about anything. My door is always open. This is your Staff Council and we are here to represent you.

Charlie Wallin, 2006-07 President

### Staff Happenings

Congratulations to the following staff members who are receiving degrees or honors this spring:

- Terri Lockwood, Equity Office, BS in Communications with honors
- Barbara Calderwood, National Center for Developmental Education, inducted into the Phi Kappa Phi honor society as a graduate student April 28, 2006.
- William Cramer, Holmes Convocation Center, BS in Communications.
- Brenda Bodenhamer, Preschool Lead Teacher Child Development Center, will receive her Child Care Operator License and Teacher/Caregiver Certificate from Caldwell Community College.
- Wanda Coles, Karen Church, and Paula Hicks, Child Development Center, will successfully complete the Exploration Activities course which concentrates on teaching math & science to young children.
- Bryan Johnson, BS in Computer Information Systems.
- Jenny Taylor, National Center for Developmental Education, MA in Higher Education.

Congratulations to the Staff Council Officers for 2006-2007:

- President: Charlie Wallin
- President-Elect: Stacy Sears
- Vice President: Jackie McInturff
- Treasurer: Judy Cereghino
- Secretary: Chris Popoola

### Staff Update Committee Members

- Jackie McInturff
- Betsy Anderson
- Sali Gill-Johnson
- Cathy Scott
- Tina Parlier

Q&A issues are always welcome.

Please send your questions to a Staff Update committee member.

### Upcoming Fundraising Events

TINY DOUBLES RETURNING TO ASU!

November 2006

ASU Staff Council is sponsoring Tiny Doubles on Saturday, November 18, 2006. (Pending interest, additional appointments may be available on Friday, Nov.17) These small (4x6, 5x7, 8x10) flat freestanding photo “sculptures” are a great way to remember. Great holiday (or anytime) gift idea.

Details, appointment times and location- to be announced.

For more information, contact Sali Gill-Johnson 262-6084 x101 or gilljohnsons@appstate.edu

The Fifth Annual Diversity Celebration

April 4 and 8, 2006

By popular demand, the annual Diversity Celebration was expanded to two days in 2006, it’s fifth year. With entertainment, educational activities and ethnic foods abounding, the festivities increased in depth and dimension and once again attracted a crowd numbering several thousand. The addition of the tenth annual Unity Festival as the featured event on Saturday provided an afternoon of family friendly fun with ample appeal for children of all ages.

Represented over the two days’ festivities were a remarkable 21 different cultures, 14 art forms, 33 ethnic foods, 10 hand crafts, 3 religions, 20 ASU student organizations, 11 community organizations, 19 local performers/ensembles, and 11 performers/ensembles from off the mountain. Equally remarkable were the contributions of the 200 volunteers, from ASU and the greater community, who were on hand between the two days to guide the events and guests that filled Plemmons Student Union at every turn.

Resounding thanks are due every participant, volunteer, sponsoring unit, restaurant, business sponsor, private contributor, and planning committee member who made this year’s celebration a fabulous success, with a special tip of the hat to the Plemmons Student Union at every turn.

Celebration Committee organizer, Susan King, take a breather.

Susan King

Committee Member

Staff Council was proud to be a sponsor of the two-day celebration this year. Here we see staff member and Diversity Celebration Committee organizer, Susan King, take a breather.

Charlie Wallin, 2006-07 President